

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 15-20 are currently pending in this Application. In an Office Action mailed June 15, 2007, claims 15-20 were subject to a restriction requirement. The Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement and requests reconsideration in view of the following comments.

Specifically, the Office Action identified purportedly six patentably distinct species:

Species A – Figure 1;

Species B – Figure 2;

Species C – Figure 4;

Species D – Figure 5;

Species E – Figure 6; and,

Species F – Figures 7A-7D.

The Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement. The Office has already conducted a search on claims 15-19, and the subject matter therein. Claims 15-19 are the same claims previously presented to the Office, albeit they are written in independent form. Moreover, when the claims were originally presented, the Office did not require a restriction requirement, as is being required presently. Thus, there will be no additional burden placed on the Office, since the Office has already searched based upon the claims.

The Applicant respectfully requests that the Office consider the restriction if a new search is performed and art pertinent to the withdrawn species is found.

Notwithstanding the above traverse of the restriction requirement, in an effort to expedite prosecution of the present application, the Applicant selects Species B depicted by Figure 2. The

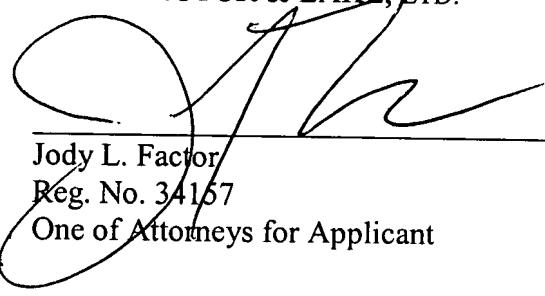
Applicant reserves the right to present the withdrawn species if the restriction requirement is withdrawn, or if a generic claim is indicated as allowable.

In view of the above, claims 15-19 have been withdrawn, and claims 21-28, which are fully supported by the specification and which do not add new matter, have been added and are directed towards the elected species.

Should anything further be required, a telephone call to the undersigned at (312) 226-1818 is respectfully invited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: July 16, 2007

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 16, 2007.


Patrick J. Smith